

Atlanta Ham

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

DECEMBER 2003

W4DOC Annual Party To Be Catered by The Beach Crew

The annual W4DOC Party will once again be catered by The Beach Crew. If you missed it last year you missed a good one. The flavor will pretty much be the same fantastic BBQ and chicken. Bring the family as this is one of the few times that we do not conduct any business. It's just sit back and have a good time. The meal is \$12 per adult and Children \$6. To help get a feel for how many folks, please RSVP to ARCHOLIDAY2003@aol.com

UO-14 REACHES THE END OF THE TRAIL

UO-14 REACHES THE END OF THE TRAIL UO-14 has officially ended its long run as an Amateur Radio satellite, although it continues to transmit telemetry and respond to commands from Earth. The Mission Control Centre at the Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (SSTL) Center for Satellite Engineering Research announced this week that the venerable and popular bird "has reached the end of its mission after nearly 14 years in orbit." Launched in 1990, UoSAT-OSCAR-14 pioneered the PACSAT communication concept as the first 9.6 kbps Amateur Radio data communications satellite, although it became best known in recent years as an FM "easy sat." "Since launch, UO-14 has completed over 72,000 orbits and as many charge/discharge cycles of its on-board NiCd battery," said AMSAT-UK Chairman Martin Sweeting, G3YJO. "However recently one of the battery cells has become exhausted and can no longer support continuous operation of the repeater." Sweeting said UO-14's transmitter shuts down shortly after it is commanded "on" due to undervoltage, so the microsatellite's mission has been terminated. "Thank you UO-14 for your long service!" Sweeting concluded. AMSAT-NA Board Member Bruce Paige, KK5DO, an enthusiastic UO-14 user, called the AMSAT-UK announcement "sad news." He said the loss of UO-14 leaves amateurs with SO-41 and SO-50 as the only two LEO FM voice satellites. He noted, however, that the planned 2004 launch of OSCAR-ECHO would help to fill the void. OSCAR-ECHO is set to launch next March 31. The popular and heavily used FM satellite's repeater quit working in August, but hope remained within the amateur satellite community that UO-14 somehow could be revived. Ground controller Chris Jackson, G7UPN,

(Continued on page 6)



W4DOC Club members enjoy holiday party meal in 2003. This years party will also be catered.

Basic Package:

Bar-B-Que Pork (chopped)
Boneless Marinated Grilled Chicken

Side Dishes:

Cole Slaw
Green Beans
Parsley Garlic Potatoes

Drinks:

Iced Tea (sweet & unsweet) &/or Lemonade

Condiments: (choice depending on entrée)

Barbecue Sauce

Bread: Dinner rolls (with butter) or Buns

Give us a head count please:
ARCHOLIDAY2003@aol.com

THE ATLANTA HAM

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Submit articles:

Atlanta Radio Club
Attn: HAM EDITOR
PO BOX 720398
Atlanta, Georgia 30358

Contact the editor for available formats to transfer material.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS THE 21ST OF EACH MONTH!

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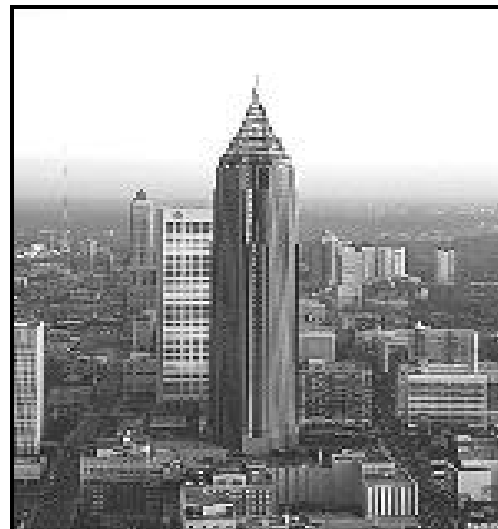
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THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

Originally known as the "Atlanta Wireless Club," the Atlanta Radio Club is one of the oldest and largest amateur radio clubs in the United States. With nearly 200 members, the Club sponsors numerous activities and services for its membership and for the Atlanta area amateur radio community.

The Club is best known for its sponsorship of the annual Atlanta HamFestival, a Saturday event which hosts many vendors, exhibitors, and flea marketers of amateur radio equipment and other electronic equipment.



Bank of America Tower
Site of Atlanta Repeaters:
146.82(-), 224.34(-) and 444.825(+)

W4DOC REPEATERS

The Atlanta Radio Club operates five repeaters at two locations. Currently our most active project is at the Bank of America Tower where we operate three repeaters at 146.82(-), 224.34 (-), and 444.825(+). On the web, go to <http://www.saf.com/arc/repeater.pdf> for a Acrobat 4.0 diagram of our system.

Our second location is the WFOX broadcast tower at Chestnut Mountain, south of Gainesville, GA. We operate two repeaters on 145.35(-) & 444.45 (+) . These repeaters are being renovated under the expert guidance of Dennis, KF4MHW. For pictures of that site, see <http://www.saf.com/arc/wfox.html>

The current schedule for net operations include the Sunday Night Net on 146.820 (Linked to 145.35 on FOX) at 8PM EST and the Southeastern VHF Net on Wednesday evenings at 9PM. The 146.820 machine can also be dialed into IRLP and SKYWARN/Peachtree City during inclement weather.

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS



MEETING NOTICE

WHEN:

Thursday December 4, 2003
7:30PM

WHERE:

Red Cross 1955 Monroe Drive –
Atlanta

PROGRAM:

2003 Holiday Party

TALK IN:

146.820 (-) PL 146.2



The Atlanta Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. BOX 720398
Atlanta, Georgia, 30358

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First US QSO above 400 GHz claimed

First US QSO above 400 GHz claimed: Microwave enthusiast Brian Justin, WA1ZMS, reports what he believes is the first QSO above 400 GHz in the US. On November 11 at 0215 UTC, WA1ZMS/4 worked Peter Lascell, W4WWQ, on a frequency of 403 GHz over a distance of approximately 1709 feet in Virginia. WA1ZMS set new North American records on 241 and 322 GHz last December, and he reports the pair used the same basic gear that had been put into service for their then-record-making 241-GHz QSO last year (recently beaten), but with new 30-cm parabolic dishes.

This weekend on the radio

This weekend on the radio: The CQ World Wide DX Contest (CW) is the weekend of November 29-30. See the ARRL Contest Page <<http://www.arrl.org/contests>> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>> for more info.

ROHN ANNOUNCES ASSET PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Source: The ARRL Letter

Amateur Radio and telecommunications industry tower manufacturer ROHN Industries <<http://www.rohnnet.com/>> has announced that it's entered into an asset purchase agreement with SPX Corporation <<http://www.spx.com/>>, a global, multi-industry company. ROHN filed September 16 for Chapter 11 (debtor-in-possession) relief in the US Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Indiana. The deal will include ROHN subsidiaries that are party to the bankruptcy proceeding. "The asset purchase agreement provides for the sale of certain assets of the company and the affected subsidiaries to SPX Corporation for the amount of \$5,450,000," ROHN said in a news release. Through its Broadcast and Communication Systems and Services division, SPX provides analog and digital TV and FM systems, high-frequency and medium-frequency antennas, transmission lines, towers and radio frequency filter systems for the broadcast market. SPX also is a major site developer for the PCS/cellular industry. The bankruptcy court must approve the ROHN-SPX agreement. ROHN filed an amended motion with the court November 13 seeking the court's approval of the asset sale and authority to sell the assets "after an opportunity is provided for competitive bidding." A hearing to consider proposed bid procedures is scheduled for November 25, and the bidding auction is set for December 8. The bankruptcy court is to consider approval of the asset sale December 9. In addition to its other products and services, ROHN manufactures towers, antenna support structures and "infrastructure equipment" for the telecommunications industry. Horace Ward is ROHN's chief executive officer. The company consolidated its manufacturing operations in Frankfort, Indiana, earlier this year. More information on the proposed deal with SPX is available on the ROHN Industries Web site <<http://www.rohnnet.com/>> (click on "Press Releases").

AMSAT Announces Appointments

AMSAT-NA announces appointments: AMSAT-NA President Robin Haighton, VE3FRH, has announced two volunteer appointments within the satellite organization. Haighton has named Ed Long, WA4SWJ, of Peoria, Arizona, as editor of The AMSAT Journal. "Ed is fully conversant with the software which we use for the Journal. He is an electrical engineer and has been a ham for over 30 years," Haighton said. Long holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia University (he was formerly WB8IKV) and an MBA from Duke University. An ARRL member, he is currently employed by SPX Process Equipment. Articles for The AMSAT Journal can sent to him via e-mail to "<journal@amsat.org>". Williams takes over his editorial duties as of the November/December issue. Haighton also announced the appointment of Jim Jarvis, N2EA, of Pasadena, Maryland, as AMSAT manager of marketing. An ARRL member and fluent in English, French and German, Jarvis has 20 years international business development experience and a formal background in strategic marketing, much of it in the engineering field. * AMSAT News Service



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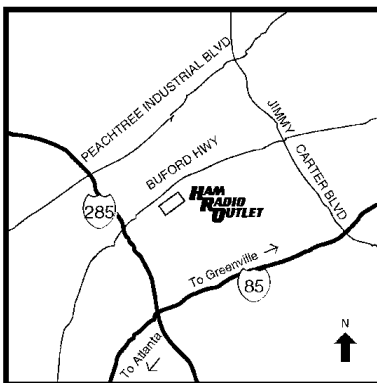
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We'll see you in June at the Hamfest!

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6071 Buford Hwy, Atlanta GA 30340

METRO TESTING SESSIONS

Call ahead to verify session and be prepared with the appropriate forms and required papers. A small fee may be charged. Check with the VEC

Athens, GA

1st Monday of each EVEN-numbered month at 7:00 pm 2095 W. Broad Street.
Contact: EDWIN FUQUA, N4VA
(706) 354-1727 E: edwin.fuqua@charter.net

Cartersville, GA

1st Tuesday of each month at the Cartersville Kroger. Contact: JODI POWELL, AG4BK
(770) 387-1591

Gainesville, GA

1st Sunday of EVEN-numbered months Johnson High School, 3305 Poplar Springs Rd
Contact: ALFRED WESTBROOK, KT4VP
(770) 965-4901 Email: kt4vp@arrl.net

Lilburn, GA

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
4th Friday of Every Month at 7:00 pm
St. John Neumann Church 801 Tom Smith Rd
Contact: Howie Gould, W9HG (770)921-8362
Headphones provided for CW tests.

Milledgeville, GA ARRL / VEC

2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 am at the Mary Vinson Memorial Library, 151 S. Jefferson St across from the Georgia Military Academy. Contact: OTIS MURPHY W4OY
(478) 452-6394 Email: W4OY@arrl.net

Peachtree City, GA

1st Thursday of EVEN-numbered months at 7:00 pm, and the 2nd Saturday of ODD-numbered months at 10:00 am at the Peachtree City Library, downstairs meeting room. Contact: JAN DUBROCA, KN4JD (770) 502-0760

Snellville, GA

2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Road.
Contact: WAYNE TAYLOR, WD3CCA
(770) 498-7759

Stone Mountain, GA ARRL / VEC

Alford Memorial Radio Club
2nd Saturday of ODD-numbered months at 8:30 am Stone Mountain United Methodist Church, 5312 W. Mountain St.
Contact: BOB VARONE, W4ETN
(770) 978 3179 Email: bvarone@juno.com

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2003

Always the 4th Saturday!

STARS – December, 12pm – 3pm SCITREK
Contact Penn. K4PE

UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR

West Central Florida Section
Convention
Florida Gulf Coast AR Council
www.fgcarc.org
6-7 Dec 2003

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Baton Rouge**



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ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration

ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration for the ARRL Radio Frequency Interference (EC-005) course opens Monday, November 24, 12:01 AM Eastern Standard Time (0501 UTC). Registration will remain open through Sunday, November 30. Classes begin Tuesday December 2. Registration for the ARRL HF Digital Communications (EC-005) and UHF-VHF Beyond the Repeater (EC-008) courses remains open through Sunday, November 23. Those interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) course in the future can sign up to receive advance notification of registration opportunities. To take advantage, send an e-mail to prereg@arrl.org. On the subject line, indicate the course name or number (eg, EC-00#) and the month you want to start the course. In the message body, provide your name, call sign, and e-mail address. Please do not send inquiries to this mailbox. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>> Web page and the C-CE Links found there. For more information, contact Certification and Continuing Education Program Department "<cce@arrl.org>".

W4DOC Badges Available...

The Atlanta Amateur Radio Club badge has a SILVER background with BLUE letters and the CLUB LOGO in GOLD. The distinctive Atlanta skyline; designed by Roy Epps, K4UWO; makes this name tag unique. Please use the "free text entry block" at the bottom of our order form to indicate the Atlanta ARC badge. The Atlanta ARC badge is \$8.75 (includes s&h).

Locking safety pin - included with badge

Permanent swivel alligator clip, add \$1

Military posts - add \$1

Over-the-Pocket with a safety locking pin, add \$1.50

Removable alligator adapter (attaches to safety locking pin and can be removed as desired), add \$1.75

Extra strong "no holes" magnetic bar, add \$2

Magnetic Over-the-Pocket pouch, add \$5

US Postal Money Order or
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acceptable

Send To:

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YOU MAY ALSO ORDER SECURE ONLINE AT WWW.THESIGNMAN.COM

UO-14 REACHES THE END OF THE TRAIL

(Continued from page 1)

at one point was able to reset the satellite, but he later determined that UO-14 had suffered a primary power system failure that was causing the spacecraft to shut down during some eclipses. During its active lifetime, UO-14 served several roles. After some 18 months as a PACSAT, UO-14 was switched to non-amateur frequencies for humanitarian use by Volunteers In Technical Assistance, which used it for messaging into Africa. After the store-and-forward communications computer proved no longer able to perform that task, UO-14 was turned back to amateur use as a single-channel FM voice repeater. UO-14 again served a humanitarian role in early 2001 when hams assisting with earthquake relief operations in the Indian State of Gujarat took advantage of the satellite to provide communication from the stricken region. The beauty of UO-14 was that it required minimal gear to make contacts—typically 5 W and modest antennas would do the trick. Operators with dualband handheld transceivers and "rubber duckie" antennas often could make QSOs via UO-14.

National Radio Emergency Network to debut

National Radio Emergency Network to debut: The National Radio Emergency Network (NREN) <<http://www.aa8vs.org/nren/>> will commence operations December 1. A cooperative effort of several US CW net managers, NREN hopes to provide an alternative public service network geared to low-power, portable and mobile stations. "Because CW provides significantly more reliability for stations operating at low power levels (QRP) or with compromise antennas, this will be a CW-based program," said an announcement from Chuck Mabbott, AA8VS. NREN will work on the "radio watch" principle, and member stations will maintain a watch on one or more of three selected frequencies in the 40, 30, and 20-meter bands. A detailed description of NREN, along standard operating procedures is available on the NREN Web page <<http://www.aa8vs.org/nren/>>.

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC P.O. Box 720398 Atlanta, GA 30358

New[] Renewal[] Treasurer Use: Date Paid: Amount: Cash[] or Check#

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Phone _____ E-mail _____ Birth _____

Occupation _____ Spouse's Name _____

Family Names (Included in membership) List Here:

Type of Application [] Voting \$22 [] Student \$8 [] Family \$2/person(non-voting)

DUES PAID: ARC \$ _____ + FAMILY \$ _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Make your check payable to Atlanta Radio Club

Chatter...From around the Web

FEMA is offering a new Course, "IS 1 - Emergency Manager: An Orientation to the Position" Upon succesful completion you will be issued a Certificate from FEMA. To access the course and download the Course materials, please go to the link shown below.

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is1lst.asp>

73s de Jorge, K4KB

For those that have missed it, the DX web page is now back in service:

<http://www.ks4q.net:4000/dx.asp>

At this web page you can set your AR-Cluster spotting preferences with a GUI interface.

For the DX spotting portion, it will look somewhat like the DX Summit web page.

73, Ernie KS4Q

Hello gang,

Just a heads up that I will be QRV from Aruba again for the 18th time as P40R. This year I am going for the 20m SO/SB record held by Wayne Mills, N7NG. Wayne set the record from Aruba in 1991 and is the longest standing single op record. I believe the time is right to get the record into local hands! If you happen to run across me, a QSO would be much appreciated!

73, Bob, K4UEE

(Continued on page 8)

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC
PO BOX 720398
ATLANTA, GA 30358



HOLIDAY PARTY December 4, 2003

TAMPA BAY HAMFEST SET FOR DECEMBER 6 2003

The Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council (FGCARC), sponsors of the 28th Annual Tampa Bay Hamfest,. This December 6th and 7th, the twenty-eighth annual Tampa Bay Hamfest will continue the celebration of everything good that is Ham Radio. But our celebration will be tempered by a new and ominous threat to our frequencies and our operating privileges. A proposal to allow Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) is currently pending before the Federal Communications Commission. The Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council, Inc. recognizes the substantial threat BPL is to the over eight hundred sixty thousand Amateur Radio licensees nationwide. For this reason, the 2003 Tampa Bay Hamfest will be conducted "In Defense of Amateur Radio". ARRL Labs Technical Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI will present information on BPL. Ed will also be conducting a forum on Antenna Modeling

Among the other major speakers scheduled to appear:

- Bob Bruninga, WB4APR - the "father" of APRS
- Joe Moell, KØOV - author & RDF expert, homingin.com
- April Moell - WA6OPS will be speaking on "Amateur Radio Support for Hospitals -- Much More Than a Rooftop Antenna"
- Icom will be on hand to demonstrate their latest offering, the D-STAR system. This is a digital system that supports voice and data.
- A hands on antenna building workshop will be held on site at 2pm on Saturday.
- Fox Hunt at 4pm on Saturday -- check on site for sign in details.
- Basic and Advanced skywarn training on site Saturday
- Testing Saturday and Sunday morning
- Other groups represented are:
ARRL High Speed Networking Group
TPALAN / FADCA / SEDAN / ARES / ARRL / NTS / CAP / MARS / NWS Ruskin

There are 200 inside tables, as well as the commercial arena. The Tampa Bay Hamfest has the largest tailgate area on Florida's west coast. Tickets are \$7 in advance, and \$8 at the door. Advance tickets are available at any FGCARC member club, or via US mail service.

For more information, please visit www.fgcarc.org or www.tampabayhamfest.org, and click on the "hamfest info" link.